

# YOUR ISSUES AND VALUES


## WAR ON TERROR

Six years ago, terrorists launched attacks against America. These extremists sought to bring down the greatest democracy in the history of the world. Since that deadly strike, America has pursued justice. In defense of freedom, we have embarked on an international campaign to combat an ideology that spreads hate and destruction, and since then we have thus far not experienced another terrorist attack on our soil.

While Congress continues to work on securing our own country by coordinating our national anti-terrorism efforts, increasing information-sharing among our intelligence agencies, and strengthening our defense, we are also on the offensive, doing everything possible to deal with our enemies on the foreign battlefield rather than here at home.

Our military is making significant gains in crippling the al-Qaeda network and increasing security in Iraq and Afghanistan. However, the future direction of Iraq must be determined by the Iraqi people. The Iraqi government and U.S.-trained Iraqi military must step up and take the lead, which will allow U.S. forces to come home.

The brave men and women of our military who are fighting the global war on terror are putting their lives on the line to defend our freedom and make America safe. They have made enormous sacrifices, leaving behind loved ones, and for the Guard and reserves, their livelihoods. Our troops have volunteered to defend our country wherever and whenever they are called, and they are executing their mission with professionalism and unparalleled courage.




## 2008 Agriculture Conference

Congressman Goodlatte will be hosting the 2008 Agriculture Conference, which will feature experts on issues of concern to Shenandoah Valley farmers and others. Guest speakers will cover topics such as livestock and poultry health, conservation and rural development programs, farm lending, trade and many other issues of interest to our farmers.

By attending this conference, I hope farmers and others interested in agriculture policy will take this opportunity to voice their concerns, provide input and gather information about major issues impacting the farm economy.

**When:** Monday, February 25, 2008  
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

**Where:** The Yellow Barn at Shenandoah Caverns  
621 Caverns Road  
Shenandoah Caverns  
(Just north of New Market, right off I-81)

 For more information, please visit my website or contact my Harrisonburg office at (540) 432-2391.

UNITED STATES  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515

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OFFICIAL BUSINESS

*This mailing was prepared, published  
and mailed at taxpayer expense.*

*Bob Goodlatte*  
PRSRT STD M.C.



Congressman  
**Bob Goodlatte**

SERVING THE SIXTH DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA



## 2008 Veterans' Service Fair

**WHEN:** Tuesday, February 5, 2008, from 10 a.m. to 12:00 noon

**WHERE:** American Legion Post, No. 16  
1301 Greenview Drive  
Lynchburg

Congressman Goodlatte will be hosting a Veterans' Service Fair. It is designed to help enroll our veterans in the VA healthcare system and to better connect them to the many programs, benefits and services in our region that they may not be taking advantage of.

The Veterans' Service Fair is for the benefit of all veterans.

## CONSTITUENT SERVICES AVAILABLE TO YOU



### FEDERAL AGENCIES

One of my most important responsibilities is to make sure the federal government is working for you. If you can't get an answer from a federal agency in a reasonable time or you've been treated unfairly, we're here to help resolve the problem or get you the information you need. Please don't hesitate to contact one of my four District offices or my Washington office if you are having trouble receiving your Social Security benefits, you lost your passport, you need replacement military service medals, or you have any other issues concerning the federal government.



### FLAGS

United States flags may be purchased through my office and flown, at your request, over the U.S. Capitol. Please contact one of my offices or visit my website at [www.house.gov/goodlatte](http://www.house.gov/goodlatte) for more information.



### CAPITOL TOURS

Tours of the Capitol, given by the U.S. Capitol Guide Service, can be taken from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Saturday. Visitors must obtain free tickets for tours, on a first-come, first-served basis, at the Capitol Guide Service kiosk located near the intersection of First Street, S.W., and Independence Avenue. Ticket distribution begins at 9:00 a.m. daily. You may obtain gallery passes to watch the House of Representatives any time it is in session by contacting my Washington office.



### WHITE HOUSE TOURS

Tours of the White House are available on a limited basis. My office may request White House tours for groups of 10 or more people. Tickets should be requested from my Washington office 6 months in advance.

### CONTACT INFO:

**Washington, DC**  
2240 Rayburn HOB  
Washington, DC 20515  
(202) 225-5431  
(202) 225-9681 Fax

**Roanoke**  
10 Franklin Road, SE  
Suite 540  
Roanoke, VA 24011  
(540) 857-2672  
(540) 857-2675 Fax

**Lynchburg**  
916 Main Street  
Suite 300  
Lynchburg, VA 24504  
(434) 845-8306  
(434) 845-8245 Fax

**Staunton**  
7 Court Square  
Staunton, VA 24401  
(540) 885-3861  
(540) 885-3930 Fax

**Harrisonburg**  
2 South Main Street  
Suite A, First Floor  
Harrisonburg, VA 22801  
(540) 432-2391  
(540) 432-6593 Fax

[www.house.gov/goodlatte](http://www.house.gov/goodlatte)



Dear Fellow Americans,

In January 2007, we began the first session of the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress. This past year I have worked hard to continue the pro-growth economic policies that have benefited every American. I have been a strong proponent of legislation that keeps our economy growing and heading in a positive direction by lowering taxes, reducing the deficit, and controlling government spending. These proven policies put more money in the pockets of folks across Virginia and the country.

In the opening hours of the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress, I introduced bipartisan legislation that would amend the U.S. Constitution to force Congress to rein in spending by balancing the federal budget. My legislation ensures that the money our citizens work so hard to earn is not squandered on wasteful spending and programs. It is common sense to American families that they cannot spend more than they have—yet far too frequently, this fundamental principle has been lost on a Congress that is too busy spending to pay attention to the bottom line.

I invite you to take a few minutes to read through this newsletter, highlighting many of the critical issues facing our country. I also encourage you to visit my website, where you can sign up for monthly e-newsletters from my office, covering a variety of topics and legislative priorities.

In addition, I hope you can find time to join me at the Agriculture Conference, the Innovation and Technology Conference, or the Veterans' Service Fair that I am hosting in the coming months. These events are excellent opportunities for you to gather information from a wide array of local organizations and to ask questions. More information on the Agriculture Conference, the Innovation and Technology Conference, and the Veterans' Service Fair can be found inside this newsletter. I look forward to seeing you soon.

Very Truly Yours,

*Bob*

### PLEASE ATTEND:

**Veterans' Service Fair: Feb. 5<sup>th</sup>**

**Innovation and Technology Conference: Feb. 12<sup>th</sup>**

**Agriculture Conference: Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>**

DETAILS INSIDE

2007 ANNUAL REPORT







# CONTINUED COMMITMENT TO YOUR ISSUES AND VALUES

## CRACKING DOWN ON ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION AND SECURING OUR BORDERS

Illegal immigration has plagued our nation for decades, costing our taxpayers billions of dollars each year, and jeopardizing our nation's security. There are estimated to be over twelve million illegal aliens currently living in the U.S., and the numbers continue to rise. This trend cannot be allowed to continue.

I have cosponsored several pieces of legislation that focus on employment and interior enforcement, while also recognizing the need some businesses, particularly the agriculture sector, have for temporary legal workers. I support legislation to address these needs, but I oppose providing amnesty to those that have broken our laws. In addition, I have supported legislation that combats the hiring of illegal workers by providing all employers with a reliable method of determining whether employees are illegal, increasing penalties for alien smuggling, and stiffening penalties for aliens who re-enter the United States after having been previously deported.

In addition to dealing with illegal immigration, we must also scrutinize current immigration policies that threaten our national security. I offered a bipartisan amendment to eliminate the controversial visa lottery program through which approximately 50,000 permanent resident visas are handed out to foreign nationals on the basis of pure luck. My amendment was included in the State and Foreign Operations Appropriations Act, which passed the House last year.

Legal immigration has blessed our country with diversity and talent; however, illegal immigration makes a complete mockery of our system and the people who abide by the rules. Now is the time to crack down on illegal immigration and to secure our borders. As your Congressman, I remain committed to these principles and the rule of law.

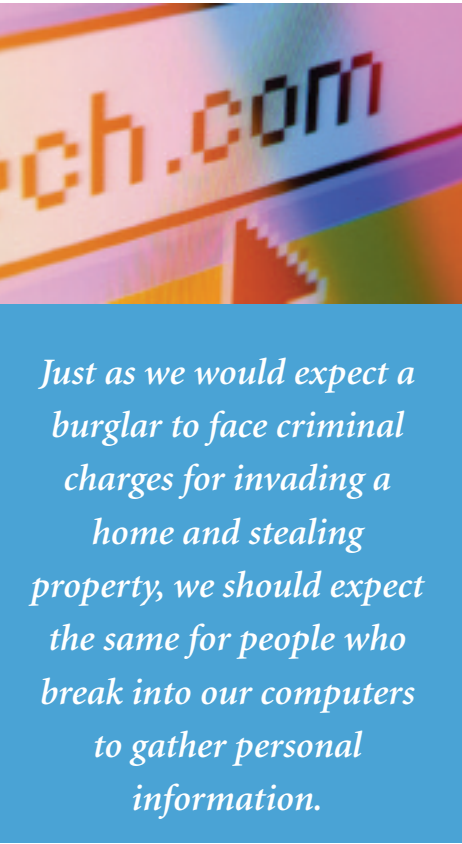
## FIGHTING SPYWARE

The continued growth of technology has brought tremendous improvement to our lives, from advances in medical research to the ability to communicate with loved ones located thousands of miles away. While the benefits of technology continue to increase, so too does the vulnerability of those who use it.

To help people stay safer on the Internet, I introduced the Internet Spyware (I-SPY) Prevention Act, which addresses the most sinister activities conducted with spyware and makes those activities criminal offenses. This bipartisan legislation overwhelmingly passed the House last spring.

Software is deemed “spyware” when it is installed secretly by devious individuals and performs additional functions of which the user is unaware. A recent study done by the National CyberSecurity Alliance revealed that over 90 percent of consumers had some form of spyware on their computers, and most consumers were not aware of it.

Just as we would expect a burglar to face criminal charges for invading a home and stealing property, we should expect the same for people who break into our computers to gather personal information.



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## AN ENERGY POLICY FOR THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY

Energy is vital to every sector of the U.S. economy, including homes, small businesses and industries. Energy powers computers, appliances, technology and the Internet, and fuels transportation and farming processes. The need for a comprehensive energy bill has never been more apparent. We’ve grown dangerously dependent on foreign oil sources as gas prices continue to escalate and threaten our economic security.

I was pleased to be appointed to the House Republican Energy Working Group by former Speaker of the House Dennis Hastert. We proposed an American energy security plan that puts innovative, forward-thinking energy solutions into action by expanding and encouraging the use of renewable and alternative American fuels, funding research and development of new and innovative energy technologies, and increasing energy efficiency and conservation to reduce consumption and protect our environment.

With Americans paying an average of over \$3.00 at the gas pump, we must diversify our energy supplies with alternative fuels, including renewable energy from our farms and forests. Today, only six percent of our energy supply comes from renewable sources.

Additionally, our initiative provides us with the tools to develop new and innovative energy technologies. It encourages the development of next-generation vehicles, such as plug-in hybrids. It creates a program for energy storage solutions to keep America’s electricity sector strong and stable.

Finally, the Republican proposal moves us toward stewardship of the energy we use by increasing conservation and providing tax incentives for the development and deployment of energy efficient technologies.

Affordable energy is the key to innovation and a strong economy. Through a comprehensive energy policy based on exploration, innovation, and conservation, we can grow our economy, create quality jobs, and make America stronger.



**2008 INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE**

Congressman Goodlatte will be hosting the Innovation and Technology Conference which will cover technology education and training, cyber security, widespread deployment of high-speed data networks and other technology issues.

Conference attendees will have the opportunity to visit booths, gather information and ask questions of representatives from a number of different regional technology councils and universities.

**When:** Tuesday, February 12, 2008  
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

**Where:** Virginia Western Community College  
Whitman Auditorium  
Colonial Avenue, Roanoke

**?** For more information, please visit my website or contact my Roanoke office at (540) 857-2672.

## WORKING TO PUT CHILDREN FIRST

In 1997, the Republican-led Congress created the State Children’s Health Insurance Program (SCHIP). There was no question that this new program was intended to help low-income, uninsured children. I strongly supported this program when it was initially created, and I strongly support continuing SCHIP today.

### Congress Should Not Push Children Out of Private Health Insurance

Unfortunately, the legislation that has been considered by Congress significantly expands the original program in numerous ways, including expansions in some states that could result in coverage of children whose families have an annual income upwards of \$70,000. Estimates indicate that over two million children currently covered by private health insurance plans would be taken off these plans and put on government assistance.

### SCHIP Should Not Cover Illegal Aliens

The House-passed legislation also weakens the requirements preventing illegal aliens from accessing government benefits. It is estimated that these provisions will cost the federal government and the states an additional \$6.5 billion.

### Health Benefits for Children, Not Adults

Additionally, these bills provide for a significant expansion of SCHIP without guaranteeing that our most vulnerable children have health insurance. Currently, there are more than 500,000 low-income children eligible for the program but not covered, including tens of thousands here in Virginia. Meanwhile, some 700,000 adults currently receive SCHIP benefits.

### Working Together Congress Can Ensure More Low-Income Children Are Covered

We have a historic opportunity to work together to ensure that SCHIP covers more low-income American children without using budget tactics that put the program in financial jeopardy and without forcing children off of private health insurance. Most importantly, any reauthorization of SCHIP must put low-income children first.

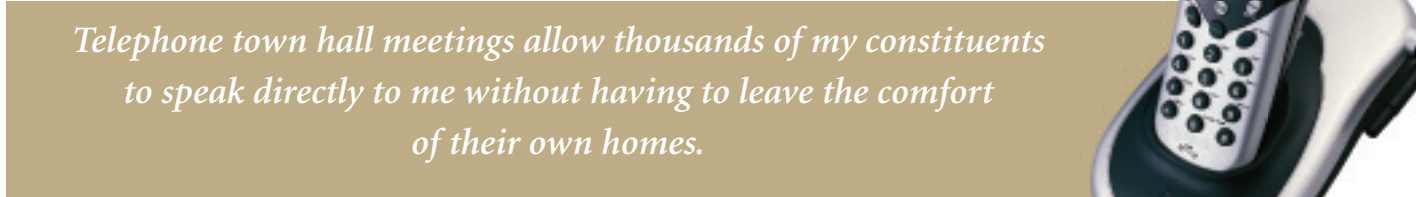


## ONLY A PHONE CALL AWAY

Last year, I began using a cutting-edge technology that enables me to reach more of my constituents at one time. Telephone town hall meetings allow thousands of my constituents to speak directly to me without having to leave the comfort of their own homes.

**Here’s how the technology works:** the calls go out to residents of the 6<sup>th</sup> District, and folks are automatically connected to the town hall meeting, which operates much like a conference call. While in the town hall meeting, individuals have the opportunity to ask me specific questions and register their opinions about a host of different issues. This technology allows constituents of the 6<sup>th</sup> District to participate in an open discussion of the key issues facing our nation.

I have received very positive feedback from folks all across the 6<sup>th</sup> District. I look forward to continuing the use of this inexpensive but effective technology in the future.



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